

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 20:25:33 1994
Date: 30 Nov 94 18:29:54 EST
From: "Judy L. Schnabolk" <73043.1704@compuserve.com>
Subject: 20M SSB QRP Transceiver - For Sale
Message-Id: <941130232953_73043.1704_GHB43-1@CompuServe.COM>

High quality components and construction throughout.

It is about the size of a hard bound book (8"w x 6"d x 2"h) and enclosed in a very attractive black heavy gage aluminum enclosure with white lettering. Looks very commercial in appearance. Some specifics:

Frequency coverage: Entire 20M phone band (14.15 - 14.35MHz). VFO is Hartley design for low noise and has been temperature compensated

for no drift. Tuning via 8:1 vernier drive.

Receiver also has

RIT for +/- change from transmit frequency.

Receiver: Single conversion design using double tuned band pass front end filter,

MC1496 1st mixer, 9MHz commercial crystal filter (2.4KHz BW),
MC1350 IF
amp. w/ AGC, MC1496 product detector and a LM386 AF amp..

Transmitter: Uses MC1496's as TX mixer and balanced modulator, a op-amp microphone

amp. (low Z), 2 class A MOSFet drivers and MRF477 (capable of 40W) linear

MC1496's that 10W PEP amp.. Transmitter circuit uses lots of filtering and

commercial are capable of running much cleaner than NE602's. Same

crystal filter is shared for transmit. Unit also has ALC.

Above circuitry on single 4" x 6" PCB except the linear amp which is on a separate

PCB (1" x 2"). Front panel has speaker and microphone jacks (500 - 1000 ohm low Z microphone w/ PTT required) , S meter/ALC meter, volume control, RIT main tuning

and toggle switches for carrier insert and manual xmit switches (for tune up).

The

rear panel has the antenna connector, heat sink, crystal filter and power cable which is

fused for reverse polarity protection. Requires 13.5V @ 2A (peak) for power.

Price is \$229 + ship.

For more information contact via above compuserve account or tel (617) 631-8383.

Ed W1AAZ

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 13:04:56 1994
From: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org (Mike Czuhajewski)
Subject: Re 450 ladder line
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 94 10:33:15 EST5EDT
Message-Id: <1994Nov19.103315.10960@wb3ffv.ampr.org>

I'm getting to put my 40 meter loop back up, this time with ladder line instead of coax, so have been following this topic with interest. I don't think anyone has yet mentioned lightning protection, something I am quite paranoid about. It wasn't a major concern in the past with the coax--as it came down from the antenna insulator it went straight to a ground rod, where a heavy wire was radiator-clamped to the plugs and barrel connector at that point, grounding one side of the antenna about 60 feet from the point where it entered the house (and the plug on the end is always disconnected and mated with a shorting socket when not in use). With ladder line this will obviously be impractical; what's a good way of protecting it that will satisfy insurance claims people when the house burns down? Any good homebrew or commercial arrestors for ladder line that *work* ? (There's always the option of disconnecting the line somewhere outside the house when not in use, but that's not too attractive, since it gets cold sometimes and I'm too lazy to want to remove all the locking devices on the sliding door every time I get on the air.) 73 and Queue Our Pea DE WA8MCQ

--

Mike Czuhajewski, user of the UniBoard System @ wb3ffv.ampr.org
E-Mail: Mike.Czuhajewski@hambbs.wb3ffv.ampr.org
The WB3FFV Amateur Radio BBS - Located in Baltimore, Maryland USA
Supporting the Amateur Radio Hobby, and TCP/IP InterNetworking

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 16:15:15 1994
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 1994 12:12:48 -0700 (MST)
From: Robert Cutter <bcutter@csn.org>
Subject: Re: 450 Window Line
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9411191228.A11656-0100000@teal.csn.org>

I was the one that started this thread and am happy to report my 160 dipole is up and working fine with window line all the way into the shack/tuner. Seems to work fine on other bands and the noise pick-up is less but signal strength is the same.

Of course I installed it in a snow storm, which we all know is the real reason for success. Thanks for all the suggestions.

72, Bob KI0G

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 18:36:09 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 14:51:22 EST
From: CNJG79B@prodigy.com (DAVID R MENNERICH)
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>
Message-Id: <013.02017670.CNJG79B@prodigy.com>

unsubscribe qrp-1

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 18:45:47 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 14:51:06 EST
From: CNJG79B@prodigy.com (DAVID R MENNERICH)
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>
Message-Id: <013.02017660.CNJG79B@prodigy.com>

unsubscribe qrp-1@netcom.com CNJG79B@prodigy.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 19:50:52 1994
From: ddoyle@arinc.com
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 16:13:34 EST
Message-Id: <9410307862.AA786247647@ccmail.arinc.com>
Subject: <didn't bother with a subject>

help

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 16:53:42 1994
From: rsk@uclink2.berkeley.edu
Message-Id: <v01510300ab0257f7aaf7@[128.32.220.242]>
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 08:44:08 -0800
Subject: Re: antennas, qrp, fairness

Gary wrote:

<stuff deleted>

>This sort of reminds
>me of the road running races I used to participate in. The 135 lb
>guys would ALWAYS win, no chance for the big guys (back then I was 187
>lbs). In running, there is the notion of a PR, a Personal Record.

>You keep track of your best times for various length races. The idea
>is that you try to establish a new PR when the spirit moves you.
>See, there was no way I was going to run a 45 minute 15k (my PR was 1:14),
>so PRs are what kept me interested.

great analogy, gary!! the discussion over antennae is rather interesting,
but quite subjective. my interest in qrp is rooted in the value i place on
simplicity (i.e., the one with the most toys doesn't necessarily "win", and
you don't have to be able to afford a \$2,000 rig and stacked arrays to have
fun with radio). i enjoy camping and hiking, and qrp allows me to combine
radio with these other interests and the activities of non-ham friends.

perhaps the next thread in this discussion should be whether commercial
radios give an unfair advantage in qrp reception...NOT!!

cheers,

bob, KA9MDP

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Dec 1 01:03:29 1994
From: JimN00CT@aol.com
Date: Thu, 1 Dec 1994 00:00:35 -0500
Message-Id: <941130192005_2456556@aol.com>
Subject: Re: Autek RF-1

John, AB6DG asks:

I am giving serious thought to purchasing the Autek RF-1 "RF Analyst" and
wonder if anyone has any experience with it, thoughts about it, etc. I
already have the MFJ 207 antenna meter, but the Autek ads make me think
theirs does a lot more.

Any and all comments greatly appreciated

73 de John, AB6DG

My +3 dBm worth: I bought one, and am verily (yea!) pleased with it. I use
it to trim antennas, to tune antenna tuners, to test caps and inductors at RF
frequencies (amazing how some components react at RF!), and as an external
signal source to make sure I'm in the correct subband with some of my rigs
%^).

It can be used as a signal source to drive things, but it is fairly unstable.
With a 50 ohm attenuator pad, it might increase stability, but haven't tried

that.

I use mine quite a bit. The only thing I wish it had was a recessed main power switch that cannot be bumped "on" during transit.

73, Jim N00CT

Where can I go in Gardenia??
Where can I go in L.A.?
Where can I go in Rosemont?
I need some threads today!
I need the knits, the double knits
I need the knits, they are the pits.....

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 22:39:28 1994
Message-Id: <m0rCyfg-0008VpC@infi.net>
From: kturner@infi.net (Keith Turner)
Subject: Big antenna debate...
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 18:42:47 -0500 (EST)

This big antenna debate has alot of suggestions rising about different limits for contesting... same antenna, same ERP, etc, etc.. how about this one..

A contest where the equipment used costs no more than XXX dollars? That would put the person with the best overall ability and knowledge in the lead.. Isn't that what contesting is about? In thiat type of contest it would test ability NOT wallet size.

Of course, It would pretty much be honor code on the total cost..

Keith Turner
KE4QOL

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 15:48:12 1994
Message-Id: <n1425926740.65892@wgs-2.bwi.bls.com>
Date: 30 Nov 1994 11:41:09 -0500
From: "evans ken" <evans.ken@wgs-2.bwi.bls.com>
Subject: Big Antennas

Let me offer my two cents. I am currently using a number of wire antennas and a multiband vertical (GAP Voyager). I would love to have a beam on a tower, but cannot. I don't think that large antennas and QRP are a bad mix.

We could structure some events around an ERP limit (5watts?), and that would

level the playing field on the transmit side of the path. However, the huge arrays improve the receive end as well with both gain and front to back/side improvements. So the op with a beam will still have an advantage.

Where does this leave us? I say put up the best antenna you can. Maybe we should consider some events around an ERP limit and see where it leads.

73 & 72,

Ken, KJ4XR

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 15:42:53 1994
Message-Id: <INELVM1.LVE.861514090094334FINELVM1@INEL.GOV>
Date: 30 Nov 1994 09:13:09 MST
From: "Larry East" <LVE@inel.gov>
Subject: RE: Big Antennas and QRP -- final comments.

Advanced Nuclear Systems Technology
MS 7113 533-4005 lve@inel.gov

I have received many comments concerning my note stating that I do not believe that REALLY BIG antenna farms are in the spirit of QRP operation. (I still haven't seen the original posting... obviously others have tho.) Only a few agreed with me; the general consensus seems to be that "its a free country and anyone can use what ever antenna he/she damn well pleases" -- well, guess that's true (in principle, at least...). Also, many stated that use of a highly directional antenna is in keeping with QRP philosophy since it directs the signal where it needs to go and reduces QRM -- interesting that many didn't feel the need to reduce network QRM and sent copies of their comments to the list at large...

Let me clarify a point or two: first of all, I am not against directional antennas in general (in spite of my comment that "real QRPers don't use beam antennas"); wire beams, phased verticals, and even tribanders at 40 feet (a rather modest investment in this age of big screen TV's and home PC's) are OK by me. What I'm REALLY complaining about is the guy running a computer controlled super techno-whizzy rice-box cranked down to 5 Watts (he sez...) feeding an antenna farm costing more than my house (and I live in a reasonably good neighborhood) competing against us "common folks" in a QRP contest! Yes, I like contests (or at least I used to...) and I have even made some fair showings in a few (third place CW QRP world-wide in the 1986 World Radio Championship, for example) using very modest (but efficient) antennas. However, the sport of radio contesting is getting like most others these days; the ones who can afford to spend the big bucks take the prizes! Looks like

my views are in the minority, and perhaps I AM just a bit jealous... so if that's how you want to spend your money, by all means do it! But don't expect me to be impressed by your high contest scores; hopefully someone with more skill and finesse will still whup ya!

Only a few comments were received regarding factoring antenna gain into contest scores; the general tone was "why bother, people will cheat anyway" (a sad commentary on the state of society in general, I suppose...).

So, I will now get off my soap box and go back to figuring out how to improve the performance of my HW-9 (or some other "primitive" peace of gear). No more QRM on the subject please... or else there will probably be another rash of "get me off this list!" messages.

72/73 from the wide open spaces of snowy Idaho... Larry W1HUE/7

Have a productive day :-)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 21:50:07 1994
From: JSPEER@sfasu.edu
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 15:26:30 -0600 (CST)
Subject: RE: Big Antennas and QRP -- final comments.
Message-Id: <01HK3G1VM09A001HLT@TITAN.SFASU.EDU>

I sure don't disagree with the claim that it's hard for us poor folk to win in contests against \$100K arrays. For that reason, I'd strongly support a movement to subdivide the qrp categories in the various contests. category 1: any antenna you want. category 2: antenna meets g-qrp standards -- no parasitic elements and max height 35'. No more than two different antennas at one time. I'm currently abiding by those rules, and not finding them unduely restrictive.

Incidentally, I'm not positive I've got the g-qrp rules exactly right. Is it "no parasitic elements" or "only one element?" The former would, I guess, admit of phased arrays.

Cheers!

--

If RST > 519
Then cut_power;

Jim Speer, K5YUT
f_speerjr@titan.sfasu.edu

*****reply separator*****
Advanced Nuclear Systems Technology
MS 7113 533-4005 lve@inel.gov

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72/73 from the wide open spaces of snowy Idaho... Larry W1HUE/7

Have a productive day :-)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 08:38:51 1994
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 1994 06:38:41 -0500 (EST)
From: James Lyons <jlyons@CAM.ORG>
Subject: Re: Big QRP-specific contests?
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9411190652.A3256-0100000@ocean>

On Fri, 18 Nov 1994 CamQRP@aol.com wrote:

> Hello Dave -
>
> The next large-scale QRP contest is the Michigan QRP Club contest, which is
> happening this coming January 7 - 8, 1995. It is a 36 hour CW contest. Rules
> will be published in QST and CQ contest columns, or send an SASE to L. T.
> Switzer, N8CQA, 654 Georgia Ave., Marysville, MI 48040-1243.
>
> The next biggie is the QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party, which will take place the
> weekend of April 8 - 9. It will also be published in QST and CQ, or drop me a
> msg here and I'll send you the specifics.
>
> There are also several short sprints, but I'm not sure if they fall within
> your definition of "large-scale" contests. I'll be glad to give you the info
> on those if you care to have it.
>
> 73 es 72,
>
> Cam Hartford, N6GA
> QRP ARCI Contest Manager
>
Not really a contest but a fun operating event is the G-QRP Club's Winter
sports from December 26 to Jan 1. There is always lots of QRP activity
between those dates.

72, Jim, VE2KN

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 13:02:36 1994
From: blifter@ccd.harris.com (Bruce Lifter)
Message-Id: <9411301422.AA48628@morsg>
Subject: Re: Cold water pipe = hot rig
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 09:22:19 -0500 (EST)

Jeffrey Herman wrote: >.
>.
>. Caution: Cold water pipes do not make a good grounding system!
>. Most plumbers place a very thin teflon-type covering over the
>. threads of each pipe. Thus, in this case your 'ground' will only

>. be one length of pipe.

>.

This must be dependent on where you live. Here in Florida, most homes are built on a slab (too wet for a basement). The local building code requires that water pipe be a continuous copper pipe running in earth under the slab (i.e. no joints). Also seeing how they are copper, no joints are threaded.

I'm sure this varies for different areas of the country and the age of the home.

73, Bruce AD4TG

--

Bruce Lifter
Harris Corporation
Controls Division

MS: R5-202
email: blifter@ccd.harris.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 15:05:58 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 08:36:20 PST
From: Mike J Pulley <Mike_J_Pulley@ccm.ch.intel.com>
Message-Id: <941130083620_5@ccm.hf.intel.com>
Subject: Re: Cold water pipe = hot rig

Text item:

Also, here in AZ (and I assume in other locales as well), the copper pipe only extends 2 - 4 feet into the ground. Thereafter, PVC pipe runs to the meter. In these days of construction improvements, don't trust the grounding qualities of any water pipe on a house built in the last 20 years.

Regards,

-- Mike, WB4ZKA

----- Reply Separator -----
Subject: Cold water pipe = hot rig
Author: owner-qrp-1@netcom.com at Internet_Gateway
Date: 11/29/94 10:15 PM

Caution: Cold water pipes do not make a good grounding system!
Most plumbers place a very thin teflon-type covering over the threads of each pipe. Thus, in this case your 'ground' will only be one length of pipe.

Jeff NH6IL

Text item: External Message Header

The following mail header is for administrative use
and may be ignored unless there are problems.

IF THERE ARE PROBLEMS SAVE THESE HEADERS.

Precedence: list

Sender: owner-qrp-l@netcom.com

Subject: Cold water pipe = hot rig

To: qrp-l@netcom.com

Message-Id: <9411300311.AA15704@kahuna.math.hawaii.edu>

>From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu (Jeffrey Herman)

Date: Tue, 29 Nov 94 17:11:50 HST

Received: by kahuna.math.hawaii.edu (4.1/kahuna-MX-1.4b)

id AA15704; Tue, 29 Nov 94 17:11:50 HST

Received: from kahuna.math.hawaii.edu by mail.netcom.com (8.6.9/Netcom)

id TAA16954; Tue, 29 Nov 1994 19:11:54 -0800

Received: by mail.netcom.com (8.6.9/Netcom)

id TAA17017; Tue, 29 Nov 1994 19:12:13 -0800

Received: from mail.netcom.com by hermes.intel.com (5.65/10.0i); Tue, 29 Nov 94

Received: from hermes.intel.com by relay.jf.intel.com with smtp

(Smail3.1.28.1 #2) id m0rCiK1-000twdC; Tue, 29 Nov 94 22:15 PST

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 17:35:11 1994

From: mont@telco-nac.com (Mont Pierce)

Message-Id: <9411301752.AA20715@ren.telco-nac.com>

Subject: Re: Cold water pipe = hot rig

Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 09:57:49 -0800 (PST)

>

>

> Caution: Cold water pipes do not make a good grounding system!

> Most plumbers place a very thin teflon-type covering over the

> threads of each pipe. Thus, in this case your 'ground' will only

> be one length of pipe.

>

> Jeff NH6IL

>

Your statement would be correct if you said "Some cold water pipes ...".
Because some water pipes actually do make a good ground.

If your house has continuous copper water pipes with soldered joints and
is attached to an actual ground usually near the electrical breaker box

then it can be used as ground. All electrical breaker boxes are required by the electric code to be connect to a good earth ground. When water pipes are all copper, they are also grounded to prevent shock in case an electric wire comes into contact with it.

If your water supply pipes has any plastic sections (some houses have all plastic plumbing) then it will not provide any ground.

Jeff is absolutely right though about galvanized water pipes and any metal pipes that use threaded joints or compression joints as opposed to soldered joints. Plumbers often use teflon tape in threaded joints to prevent water leaking. Compression joints usually contain a rubber washer. Neither of these will provide a good ground.

72,
km6wt

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 20:18:55 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 17:08:23 -0600 (CST)
From: Adrian Weiss W0RSP English Department <AWEISS@charlie.usd.edu>
Message-Id: <941130170823.1eed3@charlie.usd.edu>
Subject: Re: Cold water pipe = hot rig

One more consideration. The length of the grounding wire from the rig to the pipe must be taken into consideration. The current/voltage distribution will be approximately the same as on a regular feedline. Hence, the voltage node (0v) occurs at the connection to the waterpipe. The voltage swings thru its standing wave curve for a half-wave. The wire is "hot" in between. The "grounding wire" may actually raise the potential level at the rig considerably above "ground." MFJ's "Artificial Ground" instrument back in 1987 or so made use of this principle. The A-G box was actually a standard antenna tuner inserted between the ground of the rig and a wire which traveled to some "real" grounding point. The A-G tuner "adjusted" the length of the wire to place the rig at a voltage node. It is safe to say that in a lot of situations, a ground wire introduces problems which otherwise are taken care of by a resonant feedline/ antenna system (i.e., a tuner between rig and antenna).

73, Ade

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Dec 1 00:39:23 1994
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM
Message-Id: <9412010426.AA21510@gvlf9-a>
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 23:26:51 EST

Subject: DEC 01 FOX REPORT

Very interesting evening. Looks like 15 "solid" QSOs and 2 partials. Heard lots more stations calling. I think there was a "V3" station calling be near the beginning. Maybe a VE3?

Several times I could hear stuff way way way down in the noise that I think was calling me..

Here is what I got...

UTC	CALL	SENT	RCV	NAME	QTH
0203	STARTED on 7040				
0204	NN9K	559	449	---	-- (forgot to write down info!)
0208	W3GOI	559	449	JOHN	VA
0213	N4AOX	579	559	CLAY	TN
0216	W4HFU	579	459	FRANK	ALA
0220	WB3CGK	579	569	CRAIG	PA
0224	NZ4I	589	579	RANSON	VA
0226	K5FO	579	559	CHUCK	TX
0229	NR3Z	559	559	MARTY	PA
0234	K5YUT	579	539	JIM	TX
0236	W5TB	579	579	DOC	TX
0240	N2CX	439	459	???	?? LOST IN QRM
0245	QSY to 7110				
0255	WB2LJG	579	459	NATE	LAKEWALES, FLA
0310	N6QQ	579	329	JOHN	CA
0313	AB5OU	559	---	???	?? LOST IN QRM (called me twice)
0320	QSY to 7040				
	CQ for 10 minutes -- nil				
0332	QSY to 7110				
0336	K5UP	569	559	GLEN	OK
0343	KE400W	559	569	DAVE	CONWAY, SC
0335	WA4NID	449	557(?)	DAVE	NC
0402	QSY back to 7040				
	CQ for 5 minutes -- nil -- gave up!				

Thanks again to everyone who called and those that I missed. Will try this again in February.

Now, who is the fox next week?

73,

Pete, WA3NNA

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 09:19:12 1994

From: rohrwerk@holonet.net
Date: Fri, 18 Nov 1994 21:34:55 -0800
Message-Id: <199411190534.VAA22663@holonet.net>
Subject: DigiKey Keyer

On 11-15-94 adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.co wrote to qrp-1@netcom.com:

> 20 years or so ago DigiKey had a small keyer called (can you imagine)
> "The DigiKeyer". I think it came from a QST article of that era. It
> used 3 or 4 4000 series CMOS chips. I had one for 15 years and was
> moving it from QTH to QTH and finally I guess I gave up on packing it
> and lost it.
>
> Anyone have one or have the schematics?

Believe it or not, I still use one! This was an auspicious start for the mega-company that now bears that name. It was my first electronic keyer back in 1969 or so -- nice small board with 3 14 pin DIP chips and misc. components.

However, the chips are real antiques: RTL logic! I'll bet you can't get them any more, nor would you want to: it requires negative voltage below ground. I just use it because I have supply voltages available, and because I'm too lazy or cheap to upgrade!

> Here is why the interest - as project #2 for the internet QRP group,
> we need a non-Curtis chip non- CMOS II keyer. It does not have to be
> complicated and it only needs completing dits and dahs and spacing
> automatic for characters and words.

Why a non-Curtis chip keyer? Come on, make it easy on yourself! THIS is the simple way to go, if a little expensive.

> The DigiKeyer would be small enough and cheap enough to put in all the
> rigs that you have homebrewed or kit. This sudden interest brought
> about after carting a paddle and a keyer that was larger than the
> NE40-40 rig!!!! So let me know what you have (no need to flood the
> net) and I'll summarize. Dig through all your old QSTs, 73s, HRs, and
> Handbooks for small keyers and let's get the smallest and the cheapest
> and come up with a board that FAR or the NorCal club can go with.
>

Take it from a user: don't bother with the Digi-Keyer -- it's a museum piece. Yes, DO find a simple circuit that is based on current, standard chips if you can.

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@holonet.net / I am Bach of Borg...
: Amateur radio K0JD... / your style will be
: Church of the Annunciation, / assimilated.

: Minneapolis /

-> Alice4Mac 2.3 E QWK Eval:05Mar94

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 19:11:47 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 14:32:15 PST
From: mcraw@cv-sea.CV.COM (Mike Crawford)
Message-Id: <9411302232.AA00545@cv-sea.CV.COM>
Subject: Direct-Conversion Receivers

Does anyone out there have any experience with the R1 and R2 High Performance Direct-Conversion Receivers which were presented by KK7B in the Aug 1992 and Jan 1993 QST? Personal opinions welcome.

Thanks!

Mike Crawford, WB7DFQ
mcraw@cv-sea.cv.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 10:59:22 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 06:46:01 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9411301246.AA03779@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: email

Gang,

Listen up. I know that some of you are complaining about how long it takes to get a posting from netcom.com, but I don't seem to be having that much of a problem. Sometimes yes, but most of the time no.

The Internet is a very complicated layout of a number of systems now estimated at 3,000,000+. That's a lot of computers. The interconnect is not always direct. Some systems will hold onto mail and then dialup after-hours to another system and then transfer mail. Sometimes it's complete and sometimes only part of the mail gets transferred. And then systems go down, etc. It's all asynch communications and we should all know about that.

The system has been in place a long time and grows daily, thanks to the advertising for "the Information Superhighway" and the need for everyone to get on and "get connected".

This group has over 500 subscribers alone (which is a lot, but not all that bad) and some of those are mail aliases that get expanded into lots more people and systems. Remember we started over a year

ago when I announced the start of an special interest group for QRP to get us away from the flame wars and you guys and girls are doing a great job of staying away from nasty behavior and attitudes. We be proud. This keeps the S/N ratio up, way up.

Any, back to the original thread. You may be having mail problems along the line and it's very difficult to track down some of the problems. I am trying my best to post FOX schedules in advance, but I have constraints on my time and energy, but will continue to do the best I can. It is impossible to get the schedule finalized for the remainder to March 'cuz the Foxii have work schedules up in the air.

I posted early yesterday and Pete, WA3NNA, the fox tonight has posted a modified schedule and I received it within an hour of his posting and I thank him for his deligence and his time and effort. Good job Pete. Some of you have sent me mail saying that you haven't gotten the previous posting. If you haven't gotten it before this, then there is problem which I think is not related to netcom.com, but with some system(s) between them and your network. Monitor as close as you can and work with your group of administrators (if you can do this without getting yourself into trouble wanting rapid delivery of info on QRP :-)) to see if the problem can be minimized. I don't think it'll ever be perfect.

Learn all you can about the Internet and the mail system. It's not a perfect system, but it works most of the time. The information gets transferred across the world at someone's expense and considering postal rates, phone charges, etc. It is cheaper and faster than a lot of other ways of communicating. The only faster way that I know of is to get on the air, but we all know about what that entails.

My \$0.02 for the a.m.

dit dit es cu tonite

SIG

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 16:00:06 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 14:21:23 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: email
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411301423.A3721-01000000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Chuck - thanks for reminding us what a good thing we have going for the QRP gang. I am still impressed that we have such a good flow of information from around the country (world) on QRP topics - There is NOTHING like this anywhere else. The closest I got to something similar was carrying out a three way QSO with Japan England and moi (in Denver) on Oscar 13. But that was in "real time". My life's business is now geared around real time NOT. I like to check the QRP-L when I get home or doing lunch hour - I don't want to set up a sked to do it. So just look at this Internet "thing" as an extension of your telephone, mail, fax, magazines, eyeball and every other way that we communicate about QRP and ham radio WITHOUT A RADIO.

Just keep the info flowing realizing some days the Internet get's a little like us - it slooows down, but then it rebounds with full vigor. boy what a metaphor...

72 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 14:23:51 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 09:58:24 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9411301558.AA04329@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: Re: Fox Schedule

Paul, et al,

The fox can run one day of the week, not the weekend so as not to conflict with contests etc., and the fox picks the day of the week.

I tried to avoid multiple foxii during each week and I didn't want this to be a nightly thing. Most of us have jobs, family, etc. and we just don't have the time to compete fairly otherwise.

Hope this helps :-) I have enough foxii. Thanks for the offers.

dit dit

SIG

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60
adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 16:56:48 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 13:54:09 -0500 (EST)
From: prvalko <prvalko@vela.acs.oakland.edu>
Subject: Re: Fox Schedule

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9411301300.A12365-01000000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

On Wed, 30 Nov 1994, chuck adams wrote:

> I tried to avoid multiple foxii during each week and I didn't want
> this to be a nightly thing. Most of us have jobs, family, etc. and
> we just don't have the time to compete fairly otherwise.

Actually, that is MY point. I can never predict that I'll be free on any given evening because of my job, family, etc. I believe that there is enough interest in the fox hunt to have a couple different people run as the fox each week. That means that a lot of us (me) would stand a better chance of working the fox-of-the-day. For what it's worth, I don't *really* think of it as a competition either. I'm not out to "win" the QRP kit :-)

Sooooooo... perhaps you'll reconsider? (hope hope hope) I'd like another shot at being the fox! You are the BOSS though, Chuck. All decisions are final :-)

73! =paul= wb8zjl

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 16:59:09 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 10:51:54 -0500 (EST)
From: prvalko <prvalko@vela.acs.oakland.edu>
Subject: Re: Fox Schedule
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9411301024.A2715-01000000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

Chuck, et al,

Am I wrong... or is it possible to have a fox run any day of the week? The way this SEEMS to be set up is that one fox declares a week and picks one day of the week to operate.

Would it not be better to have any day of the week available... even the possibility that a different fox could be found every evening, if there was that much interest?

Also, one of my good QRP friends would love to be the fox, but he is NOT on the net. Can I schedule a day for him, and report his results myself?

I really enjoyed operating on Thanksgiving morning, even if none of the regular fox-hunters found me. I did work eight guys, 3 of them running QRP!

A group of us will be looking for the fox tonight!

73 =paul= wb8zjl

let's see how long this takes to post!

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 19:52:22 1994
From: rossi@VFL.Paramax.COM
Message-Id: <9411302232.AA21072@gvlf9-a>
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 17:32:21 EST
Subject: Re: Fox Schedule

->On Wed, 30 Nov 1994, chuck adams wrote:

->

->> I tried to avoid multiple foxii during each week and I didn't want
->> this to be a nightly thing. Most of us have jobs, family, etc. and
->> we just don't have the time to compete fairly otherwise.

->Actually, that is MY point. I can never predict that I'll be free on any
->given evening because of my job, family, etc. I believe that there is
->enough interest in the fox hunt to have a couple different people run as
->the fox each week. That means that a lot of us (me) would stand a better
->chance of working the fox-of-the-day. For what it's worth, I don't
->*really* think of it as a competition either. I'm not out to "win" the QRP
->kit :-)

->

->Sooooooo... perhaps you'll reconsider? (hope hope hope) I'd like another
->shot at being the fox! You are the BOSS though, Chuck. All decisions
->are final :-)

Maybe what we need is a "fox of the week". The designated fox for a given week could announce his most likely operating times/frequencies for the week and everyone would be on the lookout for him through out the entire week. The more specific the times announced then the easier it would be to find him.

If the fox only wants or is able to get on for one evening then that would be his choice. If he can get on two.. three.. or every night during his week that would be his choice too.

If you really wanted to get fancy the "hunters" could get an extra point or something if they happen to find the fox at an unannounced operating time.

The possibilities are endless but it could also easily get out of hand too.

Maybe after the first round of foxes have all had their chance, we could do something like this for the second pass later this winter. Lots of long cold winter nights coming up...

Pete Rossi - WA3NNA
rossi@vfl.paramax.com
Unisys Corporation - Government Systems Group
Valley Forge Engineering Center - Paoli, Pennsylvania

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 10:05:14 1994
From: KevinN8XEE@aol.com
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 1994 07:58:41 -0500
Message-Id: <941119075839_2824305@aol.com>
Subject: Fwd: Returned mail: Host unknown

Forwarded message:
>From: MAILER-DAEMON@mail02.mail.aol.com (Mail Delivery Subsystem)
To: KevinN8XEE@aol.com
Date: 94-11-19 07:38:12 EST

----- Transcript of session follows -----
550 qrp-1@thinkcom.com... Host unknown

----- Unsent message follows -----
Received: by mail02.mail.aol.com
(1.38.193.5/16.2) id AA00375; Sat, 19 Nov 1994 07:37:18 -0500
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 1994 07:37:18 -0500
>From: KevinN8XEE@aol.com
Return-Path: <KevinN8XEE@aol.com>
Message-Id: <941119073716_2821031@aol.com>
To: qrp-1@thinkcom.com
Subject: Hacksaw Paddle for Cheap Keyer

OK, here goes. First, please bear with my writing style as I've not done anything like this before. To construct this paddle you will need: a 5" piece of hacksaw blade

- 6 Stanley 1" "L" brackets
- 6 6/32x3/4" machine screws
- 10 6/32 machine nuts
- 3 1/2 x 5" wood base (or suitable substitute)

First, mark the center-line on the base (1 3/4"). Drill 2 holes at the end of the hacksaw blade and attach 2 "L" brackets (both on the same side of the blade). Then attach the blade to the base, on the centerline, so the free end of the blade is flush with the end of the base.

:-----:-----:-----:
:-----:-----:-----: (get the idea
so far?)

Side View

:----: :---:

Next, attach machine screws to the remaining brackets, using nuts on both sides of the brackets. I used Duco cement to secure the nuts to the inside of the brackets. This will allow for later adjustment of contact spacing and tension.

Next, mount one bracket on either side of the blade, approx. 1" back from the front of the base. There should be about a 1mm gap between the inside machine nuts. This will allow contact spacing adjustment. Mount the last set of brackets on either side of the blade, slightly behind the front pair, but make sure these do not touch the other brackets, and the gap is not as wide. The screws on these brackets will ride up against the blade to provide some tension adjustment. So far it should look something like this:

```
      :----:~----:
      :----:~----:      (Top View)
-----
      :----:~----:      :----:~----:
      :----:~----:      :----:~----:
```

At this point you're 90% finished. You should now remove the front brackets and drill a small hole through the base on each side under the bracket. Pass a small wire through the base for your dot and dash contacts and replace the brackets. Do the same for the rear support brackets (only the one closest to the front of the paddle) for your common.

Paddle handles are a matter of choice. I've used small wooden triangles purchased from a craft store. I've also used the handles surgically removed from paint-stirrer sticks. Whatever you choose, just secure the handles to the blade with more Duco cement.

Once the proper cable is secured to the connections, and the handle is glued, you're ready to go! I attached 4 small rubber feet to the bottom of the base, and it seems to work well. If you like, you can also cement one or two heavy fender washers to the underside of the base for extra weight.

I hope this gives you all some ideas. This is a very simple and fun project. There are several of these on the air in the Charleston, WV area, and I've had good comments from everyone using them. By the way, I'm using this paddle on a Ramsey CMOS keyer (built from kit) that I picked up at a local hamfest for \$25 including the enclosure. Have tons of fun and good QRP!

Best 72 & 73,
Kevin
N8XEE

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 17:31:51 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 10:25:08 EST
Message-Id: <9411301525.AA17303@maxwell.ansoft.com>
From: palmer@ansoft.com (Palmer Davis)
Subject: Good news, bad news, and a modest proposal

[Okay, let's try this again....]

Well, my 30-40 kit finally arrived... but I can't make it to any of the scheduled license exams until some time in January! Aaargh! Not that I'm going to have any time to build my 30-40 before then, between trying to get a paper finished and having just bought a house. Oh well -- at least that gives me a chance to get my code proficiency up above 20 by then.

My two cents on the big antenna flame war (the first that I've seen so far on qrp-1 -- I hope this isn't a sign of things to come): there seem to be two schools of thought concerning what QRP is about:

- 1) QRP is about finding gain in places other than a big amplifier, and about being polite to fellow hams. Stacked beam antennas atop a 100 foot tower are the ultimate expression of this philosophy, as they give you tons of gain toward the station you're working, and send little radiation anywhere else.
- 2) QRP is about doing a lot with very little, and about being clever and skillful. Large and expensive antenna structures are manifestly not the point -- if you're going to go that much expense, you might as well just run QR0.

Either view is fine, but it is necessary to realize that not everyone is making the same assumptions about what "QRP" means. We have "QRPP" for the milliwatters and "QRP\$" for folks who keep to a budget, but don't condemn folks who run more than a watt or buy an Index rig. Perhaps we should also introduce a "QRPa" category for folks who can't (or don't) do big antennas.

72,

-- PTD --

(I write antenna design software for a living, so I like big antennas, but can't really have one on my property.)

sk

Palmer Davis <palmer@ansoft.com>
Ansoft Corporation, Four Station Square, Suite 660, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 22:27:10 1994
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 13:25:34 HST
Message-Id: <9411302325.AA00505@cruncher.math.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Re: Good news, bad news, and a modest proposal

Palmer,

Please don't misinterpret the antenna debate as a flame war. It's healthy to voice opinions about all aspects of QRP.

We've had similar debates, such as homebrew vs. kit building, and keeping the list vs. going public as a newsgroup.

You'll notice that there's never any name calling or personal attacks - those are what flame wars consist of over on Usenet.

.73 from Hawaii,
Jeff NH6IL

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 16:10:01 1994
From: KevinN8XEE@aol.com
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 1994 13:36:48 -0500
Message-Id: <941119133421_2951274@aol.com>
Subject: Hacksaw Paddle

Sorry gang! I messed up my first transmission. The detail on how to build my hacksaw blade paddle is on the list under the subject "fwd:returned mail:host unknown"

I'm still new to this internet stuff!
72/3
Kevin
N8XEE

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 21:53:53 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 15:23:49 +0700
From: kub@upl.com (Steve Kubisch)
Message-Id: <9411302223.AA17645@ringworld.upl.com>
Subject: Ladder Line

Hi,

Ok here we go with the ladder line. My experience is if you are running a multiband antenna through a tuner then ladder line is the way to go. If your running a resonant antenna on one band

or a portion of a band use coax. I run ladder line to a 135 ft inverted vee fed with a tuner and it is the best ALL band antenna i have found. I run my 40m Qrp rigs to a delta loop with coax, no tuner and this works better on 40. Any ALL band antenna is a compromise.

If want great info on this subject read Doug Demaw's Antenna Book, he explains it well. Also articles by Kurt Sterba?? and Lew McCoy.

Don't listen to us, read the experts, they know from experience.

72 and look for that FOX,

Steve -WW7Y-

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 21:15:41 1994

From: ddoyle@arinc.com

Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 13:37:13 EST

Message-Id: <9410307862.AA786239289@ccmail.arinc.com>

Subject: Ladder line comments

Hi guys,

I've been watching all the comments on ladder line and how great it is. I don't want to rain on anyone's parade here but I think it's appropriate to mention some of the problems with a ladder line installation. I have tried it and here are the problems that I ran into.

As mentioned before one big advantage of ladder line is that all or mostly all of the power is radiated even when using a tuner, unlike coax where the tuner actually eats up some of the power. Lets look at why this is. Assuming a wire antenna for simplicity the wire is resonant at some frequency. If a different frequency is selected and matched with a tuner then the ladder line itself makes up part of the antenna and radiates signal. I'm not really a very technical person so I'll leave the detailed technical explanation for those who are. This radiation effect is really great unless you have a significant amount of ladder line in you shack. This makes for RF floating around in your shack big time! I'm sure there are ways of minimizing the RF in this case. My point is that a ladder line installation is not as straight forward as coax. In my case I had to run about 20ft of ladder line inside my shack was pretty bad.

Also to be considered, what is the ladder line going to come close to or lay up against in it run from you tuner to the antenna? Walls, gutters, floors etc. will effect the SWR and efficiency of the installation. A suggestion is to run ladder line from the antenna down to a balun mounted on the outside of the shack then running coax

from you radio/tuner out to the balun. One drawback here is that the balun has to be tuned to the band you want to operate on.

One last thought here. I had quite a bit more RFI from light dimmers, my TV, motors etc. with ladder line than I do with coax. Just something to consider.

It may sound like it but I am not apposed to ladder line, I just think if some one wants to use it they need to know not only the advantages but also the disadvantages. I in fact use ladder line now on an 80m dipole when operating in the field.

What ever you decide to do, I'm sure a lot will be learned from your experiences.

de Don, kc5eqc

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 16:56:11 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 11:44:28 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: need Mike Bryce's e-mail address
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411301127.A1062-0100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Wayne - I believe Mike Bryce WB8VGE is only on Compuserve - he looks over the QRP section of the Hamnet Sig.

His Compuserve address in Internet format is 73357.222@compuserve.com

I'm not sure if he will know how to communicate back to you from Compuserve to the Internet - it is possible since i do it on and off but it is cryptic to do.

Good luck and yes let's hear more about that Souped up Sierra of yours in the Dec 94 issue of 73. Nothing like seeing how the "designer" finishes off "his" rig with s/power meter, keyers and who knows what other secret circuits you've incorporated - hi.

72 Bo bV01DRB/WA6ERB

On Tue, 29 Nov 1994, Wayne Burdick wrote:

> ...if he has one. Anyone know it?
>
> I'll settle for a phone number otherwise. (I have his snail-mail address.)
>
>
> Thanks,

> Wayne N6KR
>
>
>
>

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 22:08:41 1994
From: qrmodena@csemail
Message-Id: <9412010047.AA111095@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>
Subject: Re: need Mike Bryce's e-mail address
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 19:47:46 EST

> His CompuServe address in Internet format is 73357.222@compuserve.com
>
> I'm not sure if he will know how to communicate back to you from
> CompuServe to the Internet - it is possible since i do it on and off but
> it is cryptic to do.
>

My recollection is this: a person with a CompuServe account could
send email to me (to make an example) by addressing it thusly....

INTERNET:ab4el@Cybernetics.NET

Their mail daemon passes it to the Internet gateway...which strips off
'INTERNET:' and prepends in its place 'To: '.....and adds various other
line of info that dress it properly.

I believe that messages arriving from the Internet to a CompuServe
account have a little example added on how to address the reply.

I'm posting this info so that if you see a magazine article--or
whatever, with a CompuServe address next to the author's name, feel
free to email them directly from your site.

If my CompuServe account number were: 1234,456....then you would
form the address thusly...

1234.456@CompuServe.com

Comma becomes period...add on '@CompuServe.com

--

73/Steve/AB4EL ab4el@Cybernetics.NET

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 22:13:16 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 17:10:06 -0600 (CST)

From: Theodore Drake <tdrake@metronet.com>
Subject: NN1G 40-40 KIT INFO REQUEST
Message-Id: <Pine.HPP.3.90.941130170158.11189B-100000@fohnix.metronet.com>

Some kind OM responded to my request for a summary of list comments on the 40-40 rig. Unfortunately my off-line mail reader crashed as it was downloading the attached files and everything, including the message and it's header, was lost. If you would be kind enough to re-send this info or refer me to an archive site for it I would be most appreciative!

An aspect of the internet not mentioned by professor Adams -- it's a frontier enviornment folks, and it was the pioneers that took an arrow now and then :-). While the system isn't perfect it sure is fascenating [sp] and I'm sure most of us pioneers will move into the hills as soon as it becomes too danged 'civilized' -- if not would we be QRPers?

73 "doc" W5TB

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 12:44:40 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 08:28:23 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9411301428.AA04142@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: OHR Explorer Kit

Gang,

I got the newest 40M SuperHet Xcvr from OHR last night via UPS.

I opened the box up and the kit is well packed and insulated from the dangers of what shipping companies can do. I haven't undone the wrapping around the cabinet and the inclosed parts as I know what will happen when I do. :-). I'll be up all night.

I read through the instructions and looked at the schematics. It looks like another winner from Dick Witzke, KE8KL, owner and general all round designer, prototyper, etc. at Oak Hills Research.

This kit could probably be put together by the beginner, since the manual is very detailed. And this last statement is bad news for some. This kit, under the guidelines of the QRP ARCI, will not qualify as a homebrew rig, since the manual has step by step assembly instructions with pictures of components, etc. It is a very nice manual and looks a lot like the Heathkit manuals. Not to the detail of showing a picture everystep, but there are some nice full page diagrams, and illustrations of assembly.

I'm really looking forward to putting this one together, but I'm half

way through the MXM 20M Xcvt and will have it done in the next day or so. So many rigs and so little time. :-)

BTW, the Explorer is available today from OHR for \$119.95 (regularly \$129.95) plus \$4.50 or so for shipping. I don't have the catalog handy and the shipping cost may be slightly higher. They will take your order by phone with your credit card handy at (616) 796-0920. Please don't take up Dick and Cathy's time by calling to chat as he is very busy with designing new rigs and stuff. Time is valuable for everyone these days.

FYI

dit dit

SIG

Chuck Adams K5FO CP-60

adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 20:36:11 1994

Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 17:42:31 -0330 (NST)

From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Subject: Re: OHR Explorer Kit

Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411301731.A11575-0100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Chuck - what's the chip line-up look like in the Explorer? Is it NE-602's with a similar design to the MFJ/Rick Littlefield superhets? What type of QSK? As good as the quiet QSK (non-relay) type of the Classic and Spirit's? Waiting for your values feedback? PS: Don't answer this until you finish building - don't want questions to hold up progress unless your taking a microwave popcorn break or whatever..

72 bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 19:06:42 1994

From: cb4@ukc.ac.uk

Message-Id: <9411301927.AA05842@Early-Bird.Think.COM>

Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 19:26:22 +0000

Subject: Please subscribe

subscribe

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 15:21:51 1994

Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 08:52:55 PST

From: R._Baker.VEN1@rx.xerox.com

Subject: QRP and big aerials

Message-Id: <"30-Nov-94 5:52 PM".*.R._Baker.VEN1@RX.Xerox.com>

Folks,

there's been a bit of mail about this recently and I thought that I'd add my thoughts. I would love to have two stacked monoband yagis for any band. I wonder what working via something like that would be like at any power. Perhaps AA2U or someone with one of these set ups could post something to the list about this as I guess it's something that most of us will never get to experience first hand.

I think that the important thing to remember is that however you use your radio that this is a hobby and it's supposed to be fun. In every hobby there are people who for one reason or another have an advantage over us mere mortals. The only time to get sore about it is when they abuse that advantage to make life difficult for us.

Someone on the list (I forget who) came up with the idea of a contest where everyone was on a level playing field. I think the example used was a dipole for 40M at 25 feet. That sounds like a great idea you then get differences in rigs used and filters available and all the rest of it but the basic idea is sound. I think that the RSGB have a restricted section in their National Field Day contest, I believe that the restrictions are on power and you are allowed only one single element aerial at a maximum height of 35 feet, you can choose the aerial type within these restrictions. How about adding a section like this to other contests.

By the way has anyone got any good ideas about what to use for a small backyard aerial. I've been inactive for most of the last 7 years and now I'm back on I'd like to get my code speed up to something useable than the 8-9 wpm it's gone down to, so I decided that 80M and 40M are best for a bit of evening and weekend working. However my backyard is 10 feet by 8 feet. I've been toying with the idea of sticking a coil in the bottom of an old CB 5/8 wave type aerial and then tapping down it for different bands, the actual matching being done with a tuner in the shack. What do I do about radials ? I'd be interested in how others out there have tackled this sort of problem.

Cheers,

Russell. - PA/G4ZRZ

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 19:22:07 1994

From: JSPEER@sfasu.edu

Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 15:16:51 -0600 (CST)

Subject: Re: QRP and big aerials

Message-Id: <01HK3FQ132R0001HLT@TITAN.SFASU.EDU>

PA/G4ZRZ wrote:

> By the way has anyone got any good ideas about what to use for a small
> backyard aerial. I've been inactive for most of the last 7 years and now I'm

>back on I'd like to get my code speed up to something useable than the 8-9 wpm
>it's gone down to, so I decided that 80M and 40M are best for a bit of evening
>and weekend working. However my backyard is 10 feet by 8 feet. I've been toying
>with the idea of sticking a coil in the bottom of an old CB 5/8 wave type
>aerial and then tapping down it for different bands, the actual matching being
>done with a tuner in the shack. What do I do about radials ? I'd be interested
>in how others out there have tackled this sort of problem.
>
>Cheers,
>
>Russell. - PA/G4ZRZ

Yep. You're certainly a candidate for a vertical, but I'd stick some conductor up in the air, not just a cb whip. How about a quarter wave on 40 (conduit stuck together, set on a coke bottle, and guyed to whatever is handy, with a loading coil for 80 meters? I KNOW you can do without radials, because I've done it with fair results. Drive an 8' copper ground rod adjacent to the vertical, and water the soil around it VERY heavily. If you're lucky enough to have reasonably conductive soil, it works pretty well.

Or, do you have a tree? A quarter wave of wire hanging DOWN is nearly as good as a quarter wave of conduit sticking up. :-)

72!

--

If RST > 519
Then cut_power;

Jim Speer, K5YUT
f_speerjr@titan.sfasu.edu

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Thu Dec 1 01:41:28 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 94 22:25:37 -0600
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Message-Id: <9412010425.AA05431@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>
Subject: QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits HB Sprint

QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits HB Sprint

DECEMBER 4, 1994 Sunday Afternoon/Night

QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits HB Sprint, CW, sponsored by
QRP ARCI, 2000Z to 2400Z December 4. Work stations
once per band, exchange RST, state/province/DXCC country
and ARCI number if member (power out if nonmember).

2000Z to 2400Z is 2000UTC to 2400UTC for you young squirts. :-)
Which translates into 1400CST to 1800CST and I leave it as an
exercise for the other 23 time zones in the world to work it out. :-)

Frequencies of 3.560, 3.710, 7.040, 7.110, 14.060, 21.060, 21.110, 28.060, 28.110, and 50.060 MHz. Score 5 points/QSO with ARCI member. Others count 2 points/QSO with same continent and 4 points/QSO with different continents. Final score is QSO points x states/provinces/DXCC countries worked per band x power multiplier (0-1W, x10; 1-5W, x7; >5W, x1) x power-supply multiplier (if 100% solar/natural/battery power, x1.25; others x 1) + bonus points (2000 points/band if a homebrew transmitter is used; 3000 points/band if homebrew receiver is used; or 5000 points/band if a homebrew transceiver is used; max 5000 points per band). Awards will be given. Send entry by Jan 2 to QRP ARCI Contest Manager, Cam Hartford, N6GA, 1959 Bridgeport Ave, Claremont, CA 91711.

NOTE: There is a typo in the QST announcement. You will not get 5000points/QSO if HB xcvr is used. :-) WOW, what a monster score you could get from that!!!!

NOTE: No WARC as agreed worldwide that contests would not operate in the WARC bands.

NOTE: Send in DUP sheets with log and summary. Also Cam will take pictures too, I'm sure for possible publication. He'll also take your soapbox comments - the usual: " conditions sucked canal water big time", "where was RI, ND, and WYO?", "ERP of 0.0001W didn't get me any points!!!", "my keyer went south for the winter", :-) No charge for that Cam. dit dit

Do you realize that a HB xcvr is worth 500 QSOs, considering multiplier of 1 for the other factors? I'll post rules for HB - what is and what is not. Cam can correct me if I'm wrong but my posting last year was the latest published by the QRP ARCI.

I will unfortunately will be K5F0/XE1 without a rig or license in Cancun on Sunday, thus can't participate. Darn it.

I hope and I pray that I typed this in correctly. I'll post typos as I see them. :-)

Let the games begin.

dit dit

SIG

Chuck Adams K5F0 CP-60

adams@sgi.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 23:22:06 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 19:29:55 -0700 (MST)
From: Robert Cutter <bcutter@csn.org>
Subject: QRP ARCI Sprint
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9411301923.A24901-0100000@teal.csn.org>

Don't forget Sprint 2000Z to 2400Z, December 4.

Short and lots of fun. 7.040, 7.110, 14.060 etc

72, Bob KI0G

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 22:44:38 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 17:26:35 -0600 (CST)
From: Theodore Drake <tdrake@metronet.com>
Subject: RF Ground
Message-Id: <Pine.HPP.3.90.941130171014.11189C-1000000@fohnix.metronet.com>

What I have found effective on in my second floor 'shack' [a tiny closet off the bedroom in the TRUE qrp spirit, but hey I'm not proposing we take contest points away from those of you with qro sized shacks :-)] is a counterpoise system consisting of #18 wire radials for 75, 40 & 20. In my experience these can be bent, twisted, folded, etc. Seperate radials for other bands are nice but probably overkill [altho I'm not on any WARC bands other than 30].

For stateside operation this works great with a random wire as long, high, and clear as you can manage. If you have problems with antenna restrictions then use anything from a random wire in the attic to one mounted on fishing poles slipped into their holders at night and taken back down before sunrise. Such antennas have allowed me a lot of clandestine operating fun without neighbors or landlords becoming too suspicious.

73 'Doc' W5TB

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 09:03:41 1994
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 94 00:53:19 CST
From: msdoooley@collie.aud.alcatel.com (Michael S. Dooley)
Message-Id: <9411190653.AA14423@collie.aud.alcatel.com>
Subject: RST

> He came back on the first call and gave me a 559 (his was 589).

^

Steve asks:

> How do you determine this on(3 a radio with no S-meter?

Mike responds:

Good ears... B-)...

Mike

KE4PC

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 17:21:17 1994

Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 08:43:51 +0700

From: kub@upl.com (Steve Kubisch)

Message-Id: <9411301543.AA16502@ringworld.upl.com>

Subject: Sierra Update

Hi,

Recieved my Sierra last Wednesday and had the whole Thanksgiving weekend to work on it. Everything was there except the VFO dial, great packing job considering the large number of parts and only one missing.

The board was nice and assembly went without a hitch. I used DIP sockets for ease of repair if ever needed. Wayne did a great job on the design and it is definatly a professional job. I got the 40 M band module built and even enjoyed winding the toroids.

Got around to alignment last nite using my 850 transciever. I figured if I had any problem I would bring it in to work and the test equipment. But everything tuned up just fine with the 850. The reciever sounds good, like the Norcal 40, and the AF control is nice to have. Got about 2.5 watts out, nice clear CW tone on the air. Used a old dial I had in the junkbox so I'll probably have to go through it again when I get the dial from Jim.

Called Jim and ordered the 20 m kit and have got the 30 m to build. Didn't have time to make any contacts last nite but I'm really impressed with the little guy.....now what to do with the Norcal 40? I guess I'll keep it for a while, I know I'll regret it if I part with it.

Thanks you guys at NorCal for a great kit!
Keep them coming.

73,

Steve -WW7Y-

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 09:23:55 1994
From: JSPEER@sfasu.edu
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 1994 06:27:19 -0600 (CST)
Subject: Re: Small Wonder 40
Message-Id: <01HJNK1X99LW0006E3@TITAN.SFASU.EDU>

>Michael S. Dooley wrote:

>

>> He came back on the first call and gave me a 559 (his was 589).

>

>

>How do you determine this on a radio with no S-meter?

>

>--Steve

I believe RST reports long predate s-meters. And, of course, s-meters differ a lot from one another, so s-reports on the same signal will be all over the lot. I think it depends on the receiver how you make an estimated s-report. With older receivers with manual rf gain and no agc, I used to set the rf gain at a standard place and report on the basis of estimated loudness, or with weak signals, separate the 1s and 3s by how far up I had to jack the rf gain to hear the person. With some agc's, it used to be possible to report based on how much the agc quieted the background noise when the station began to transmit. In all these cases, though, I never thought I could estimate 9 separate categories, so always kept my reports to 1, 3, 5, 7, or 9.

72!

--

If RST > 519
Then cut_power;

Jim Speer, K5YUT
f_speerjr@titan.sfasu.edu

Steve Hideg Macintosh Consultant/Analyst

Office of University Computing E-mail: Steve.Hideg.1@nd.edu
G004 Computing Center/Math Building Telephone: (219) 631-EXAM
University of Notre Dame Amateur Radio: N8HSC/9
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Microsoft: Software so big, it beeps when it backs up.

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 11:21:11 1994
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 1994 10:41:25 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: Small Wonder 40

Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411191025.C23876-01000000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Steve - one of the first tricks you learn as a QRPer is you NEVER use an S meter (mainly because you don't have one - hi). What you do is read what the RST reporting really stands for (see ARRL Handbook or better yet ARRL operating manual) and you try to equate your signal report to what the number stands for.

You can tell that hams don't understand (or use, or believe in or care about) RST reports when you hear:

"Your five by nine plus 30 db"
Your 599 (QRP contest)
Your three greens and a red
Your 5X9 but hardly moving my S meter
Your 5X9 but the noise level is S8 (VHF operation)
Your 4X3X9 with QSB and QRO QRM

Now pick which one is the "real" QRPer

By the way if you want to have fun - give out a 5X5X8 or 5X5X9C some time (when it is warranted) and see if you get a repeat - when I first ran my MFJ 9020 on a cheap wall mounted power supply cube that didn't have a enough current capacity I deserved some tone reports less than 9 but never got them - sigh

72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

On Fri, 18 Nov 1994, Steve Hideg wrote:

> Michael S. Dooley wrote:

>

> > He came back on the first call and gave me a 559 (his was 589).

>

>

> How do you determine this on a radio with no S-meter?

>

> --Steve

>

>

>

> -----

> Steve Hideg Macintosh Consultant/Analyst

>

> Office of University Computing E-mail: Steve.Hideg.1@nd.edu

> G004 Computing Center/Math Building Telephone: (219) 631-EXAM

> University of Notre Dame Amateur Radio: N8HSC/9

> Notre Dame, IN 46556

> -----
> Microsoft: Software so big, it beeps when it backs up.
>
>
>

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 11:29:01 1994
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 1994 11:07:08 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: Small Wonder 40
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411191108.F23876-0100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

Paul - I've put the WB8ZJL S-Meter Chart in my archives. Now I really know how the Signal Strength reports are used - from what you say we need an additional element in the RST - something like RSTC where C is for operator Characteristic so we can tell if the report is coming from a QRPer, an 80 (excuse me 75 meter) 5KW ragchewer, contesteer, dxer, 2 meter operator, digital operator (blaaaaat) etc etc etc.

Thanks Paul, Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 23:52:14 1994
From: JimN00CT@aol.com
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 21:22:37 -0500
Message-Id: <941130192103_2457746@aol.com>
Subject: SPRAT 72 micro 80 transciever

Anybody built the "Micro 80 Transceiver" from SPRAT #72?? Am I crazy for thinking that there should be a dc blocking capacitor between +12 vdc and the headphones?? There isn't one.

What obvious thing am I missing??

73, Jim N00CT

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 12:24:02 1994
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 11:06:52 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: W5QJR Antenna products
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411301152.A406-0100000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

John - Because of my apartment situation on the job I'm on I lost the use of my big QRO (QRO in antenna gain that is) tower mounted 3 element tribander and I am using a commercial magnetic loop - the MFJ Super High-Q Loop (similar to the AEA IsoLoop) and yes IT is a performer on the

10 -30 Mhz range. I worked a pile of DX on 20 during the last ARCI QRP contest.

So for 30 meters to 10 meters the small magnetic loop lives up to the theory as a good performer at low mounting heights (mine is horizontally mounted on my third floor apartmnet balcony with clear shots looking south-west towards the US.

72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 16:56:30 1994
From: blifter@ccd.harris.com (Bruce Lifter)
Message-Id: <9411301825.AA54908@morsg>
Subject: Re: W5QJR Antenna products
Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 13:25:57 -0500 (EST)

John Livingston (G4FDD) wrote: >.

>. In-Reply-To: <199411290327.TAA19844@ix.ix.netcom.com>

>. No replies about W5QJR or his book yet

>.

>. There have been various articles in the mags over the years describing

>. loops, but I think the W5QJR book may be a summary of design data, and

>. that's why I'm trying to find one. There have been several good designs

>. of transmittingloops published in the G-QRP magazine (Sprat) over the

>. years, often using the outer of heavy coax cable as the loop conductor.

>. It would be interesting to hear about the use of loops at QRP. Any of you

>. guys been using one ?

>.

John,

Somehow I never received your original post. If you are trying to get a copy of Ted Hart's book, you can get it from him direct. His address is as follows:

W5QJR Antenna Products
P.O. Box 334
Melbourne, Florida 32902-0334

According to a flyer I received from him, he has 4 products he is selling:

The Rules of the Antenna Game - \$9.75 plus \$2.00 postage and handling
(\$5.00 overseas airmail)

Small High Efficiency Antennas, alias the LOOP - 14.95 plus \$2.00 P&H
(\$5.00 overseas airmail)

Loop Program - (IBM basic program) 5.25 disk - \$9.95 plus \$2.00 P&H
(\$5.00 overseas airmail)

Ham Programs - (IBM basic programs) 5.25 disk - Included with Loop Program disk

I hope this helps!

73, Bruce AD4TG

P.S. I have no financial interest in W5QJR Antenna Products. Ted does live in the area and occasionally presents his ideas to the local radio clubs.

--

Bruce Lifter

Harris Corporation

Controls Division

MS: R5-202

email: blifter@ccd.harris.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 17:22:40 1994

Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 08:30:09 -0700 (MST)

From: "James P. Rybak

"

<jrybak@mesa5.mesa.colorado.edu>

Subject: Re: W5QJR Antenna products

Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9411300833.A23891-01000000@mesa5.mesa.colorado.edu>

Does anyone know where the W5QJR book can be obtained?

Jim Rybak W0KSD

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Wed Nov 30 08:40:02 1994

From: K7YHA@aol.com

Date: Wed, 30 Nov 1994 06:22:03 -0500

Message-Id: <941129212318_1636060@aol.com>

Subject: Re: Water pipe ground

I have fought the ground problem for years. My current shack is on the 3rd floor of our house. I installed a sub-panel in the new shack when I remodeled. In addition to using 10-3 MC cable I ran a seperate #6 ground for the radio gear along with a seperate #10 ground to an isolated outlet for the computer gear (to keep the computer hash down). All this runs down three floors and across the length of the basement to the input to the electrical service where it is tied into the cold waterpipe ground that the service is tied to.

I have a good DC ground but a very poor RF ground, as the 85 feet of wire that runs from the shack to the waterpipe can easily resonate on several multiple wavelengths of the HF bands.

I currently use an MFJ Artificial Ground to tune the ground system much like the simple "L-Match" antenna tuners. Since the circulating RF currents (when

running QRP) are quite small, it takes a lot of patience and some experimentation to tune the MFJ unit precisely. It does work and it does improve the overall operation of the antenna system, not to mention keeping the RF from floating around in the shack and getting into the phone lines.

72 rich

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Fri Nov 25 16:15:00 1994
Date: Wed, 23 Nov 94 09:22:10 EST
From: klaudon@PICA.ARMY.MIL
Message-Id: <9411231422.AA17274@batdd6.pica.army.mil>
Subject: Re: YES

In my listing for sale the MFJ-9030 and HW-8 for \$ 200 apiece, on the heels of a message praising the value of this list for allowing us to trade among ourselves at fair market values, I HOPE that most everyone realized that my offer was tongue-in-cheek!

Sheesh, for an MFJ rig that LISTS for maybe \$ 180, or less, I would want at LEAST \$ 250 for! Hey, it's been burned in, and the dial reads more or less accurately now (as opposed to the way it came from MFJ)! That's gotta be worth something! :)

73 de Kalman AA2UQ (.sig omitted to partially make up for this useless post!)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sat Nov 19 11:21:55 1994
Date: Sat, 19 Nov 1994 10:54:02 -0330 (NST)
From: Robert Gobrick <bgobrick@random.ucs.mun.ca>
Subject: Re: your mail
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9411191002.D23876-01000000@random.ucs.mun.ca>

D.J.,

Don't let English not being your first language stop you from getting on CW - most (well at least my QS0's) don't follow any rules of grammar and that is one of the beauties of CW. Especially on the international circuit where everyone understands the basics like RST, QTH, Name (Op), Rig etc. As a matter of fact a good number of hams have technical backgrounds so that immediately disqualifies them from understanding anything about proper grammar - whether it is English, Spanish, French, Chinese or whatever - ;-)

Keep us informed on your SSB project - that will be one of my next ventures, maybe this winter.

73 Bob VO1DRB/WA6ERB

On Fri, 18 Nov 1994, DJ Wang wrote:

> Hi Gangs:

> I am building (from scratch) a SSB/CW QRP transceiver which is a project

> I started when I first got my license back in April this year. I had finished the

> Rx part using SBL-1 mixers, MC1350 IFs and homebrew ladder Xtal filter (8.192MHz).

> I have also finished the SSB generator using an eletret mic, an LM741 and an

> NE602 mixer (based on Canadian Epiphyte design). I am thinking about using the

> NN1G MKII Tx board for TX. Here are the questions:

>

> 1). Is the NN1G board suitable for SSB work? I don't know whether it is

> a class C or AB design. If it is class C, is there a quick fix for it?

>

> 2). The finished receiver seems to have a higher level of background

> noise (hiss) as compared with my Icom-730. It has no preamp before the

> DBM, but have two MC1350 IF stages (tuned). It also has an AGC. I have

> seen it somewhere that MC1350 is a bit noisy, is it the true? I had built

> a NN1G MKII, 40m rig a month ago. Although the audio was low, but I did

> not noticed any excessive background noise.

>

> Haven't got time to test my NN1G on the air yet due to 2 young kid at home and

> a slow CW speed. I did passed a 13 WPM and get my Advanced ticket but I have

> trouble sendingit at that speed since english is my second langauge (i.e. I have

> to form an image of the english sentence in my brain before I can send them out.

> I guess practice is the only way. Thanks in advance for any help.

>

> D.J. Wang N2YKP

> MMRRCC, Dept. of Radiology

> University of Pennsylvania

> Phila., PA 19104-6021

> Email: djwang@nmrsg.biophys.upenn.edu

>

>

>